



Challenge America: Reaching Every Community Fast-Track Review Grants Fiscal Year 2009

Challenge America Fast-Track Grants enable organizations, particularly those that are small or mid-sized, **to extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations**—those whose opportunities to experience the arts are **limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability**.

Postmark **deadline is June 2, 2008**. Applicants will receive notification **within approximately 6 months** for projects starting **after January 1, 2009**. **Grants are \$10,000** and require a **one-to-one match**. Projects should be focused, distinct activities that are generally smaller in scale and shorter in duration than those supported through other NEA categories.

Projects are limited to **ONE** of the following specific types:

Guest Artists/Arts Event: An arts event that will feature one or more guest artists. The project (such as a festival, exhibit, recital, reading, performance, screening, broadcast, lecture) must include the participation of guest artist(s). Artistic staff or resident artists of an applicant organization do not qualify as guest artists. In addition to artists' fees, the project may include public relations, professional documentation, and program enhancements that are integral to the event. Examples of program enhancements include interpretive material, transportation, program accommodations (e.g., sign language interpretation, audio description), catalogues, brochures, or publications. Other enhancements such as specific lecture-demonstrations, pre- or post-event talks, or workshops relevant to the proposed arts event also are eligible. NOTE: Projects that involve curriculum-based arts instruction are not eligible (see the [Learning in the Arts](#) category).

Public Art: Professionally directed public art projects such as murals, sculptures, or environmental art that are developed through community engagement.

Civic Design: Civic design activities that involve the renovation, restoration, or adaptive reuse of cultural facilities or spaces. Projects may include architectural studies, design competitions, charettes (design workshops), or feasibility plans. Funding is not available for actual renovation or construction costs.

Cultural Tourism/Districts: The unified promotion of community-wide arts activities and resources to enhance cultural tourism or activities in cultural districts. Unified promotion is defined as the professional assessment, design, and/or distribution of public relations tools (calendars, Web sites, brochures, rack cards, signage, etc.) designed to benefit several local organizations. NOTE: Promotional projects for a single organization are not eligible.

*Organizations that apply to Challenge America Fast-Track are **not eligible** to apply for either the Access to Artistic Excellence or Learning in the Arts for Children and Youth categories.*

Information on Challenge America Fast-Track grants and application instructions and forms are available in the **Fiscal Year 2009 Guidelines**, which are organized by discipline/field.

The **Guidelines** will be posted in January 2008 on the **Arts Endowment website:**

www.arts.gov **

** Please note registration information regarding grants.gov, the federal government's online application system.